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The Progressive Republican

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VOTE FOR McCAIN!

For People that understand basic economics and the dangerous world we live in, there is just one choice for President this fall



by Mark Herrick
President, CRL

Many of us at the California Republican League were disappointed in Senator McCain's choice of Sarah Palin as his running mate. We were hoping McCain would reach to the center and maybe pick a Republican pro-choice woman, like Linda Lingle, the governor of Hawaii, but it was not to be.

However, I hope his decision has not influenced you to vote for Senator Obama. It is clear that on the choice issue Obama is a better choice. But we are not a single-issue organization, and you shouldn't choose a candidate based on one issue alone.

I don't think anyone can question my credentials as a "moderate Republican" (a title I wear proudly) or as a centrist. And in my opinion, in this election, there is no choice but McCain, regardless of his opinion on choice. In fact, in the past one hundred years, the decision for president has never been clearer. In every way Senator Obama is not only a poorer option for President, he is,

in my humble opinion, a nightmare in the making.

Senator Obama has absolutely no qualifications to be president. When he ran for the US Congress and lost, just a few years ago, his inexperience was highlighted by his opponent and stuck, and Obama lost that election. So if Mr. Obama was not qualified to be a Congressman a few years ago, why is he now qualified to be leader of the free world? I believe you could pick a random name out of the phone book and have a chance of coming up with a more qualified candidate than Senator Obama. Before becoming a State Senator in Illinois, Senator Obama was a "community organizer". I am not even sure what that means. Regardless, before embarking on his political career he had absolutely no private sector experience – let alone executive experience in the private sector or military. In other words, a man with zero executive experience is running for the most important executive position in the world. In addition, contrary to his claim of being a politician who rises above politics, according to the Economist magazine, although it may not seem possible, he has a history of playing gutter politics and manipulating the system for personal gain. He won his first political race, his Illinois Senate seat, by having a team of lawyers throw out all the other candidates on

the ballot that opposed him on technicalities. One of the candidates was an African-American woman who helped him get his start in politics.

Obama claims to be a reformer and a politician who rises above partisan politics. There is no question the American people deserve a president who can reach across the aisle to resolve the grave challenges facing our country. However, Obama has been a machine politician his entire career who has zero history of bipartisanship. After he was elected in Illinois to the State Senate, he was a staunch backer of Mayor Daley, who has done little to clean up the corruption in Chicago. Obama was also a strong supporter of John Stroger and his son Todd. Todd succeeded his father as president of the Cook County's Board of Commissioner's shortly before Stroger senior died last January. Both of these men have been roundly criticized by the federally-appointed Judge Julia Nowicki for their corrupt political practices. In other words, Senator Obama is not any sort of a new politician, he is an old school politician of the worst kind: a machine politician.

Of course these political relationships are not nearly as damning as Obama's close association with crooked property developer Antonio Rezko. In 2005 Obama purchased a new home in the Kenwood District of Chicago



Cameron Smyth, Assemblyman for the 38th District, gives Nancy Spero, President of the LA Chapter of the CRL, a plaque commemorating the opening of the Republican and McCain Headquarters in Woodland Hills.

for \$1.65 million (which was \$300,000 below the asking price) on the same day that Rezko's wife, Rita Rezko, purchased the adjoining empty lot from the same sellers for the full asking price. After it had been reported in 2006 that Rezko was under federal investigation for influence-peddling, Obama purchased a 10 foot (3.0 m) wide strip of Ms. Rezko's property for \$104,500, \$60,000 above the assessed value. Does anyone but the Easter bunny believe there was not something nefarious behind these transactions? Of course all this happened just before Rezko was convicted of fraud and bribery in 2008.

Then of course there is Jeremiah Wright. Do I need to say any more about this colorful character; Mr. God Damn America? Senator Obama had the man

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VOTE NO ON PROP. 4 FOR A THIRD TIME

by Becky Morgan
Former State Senator

Here we go again! In November, 2005 the voters clearly defeated Prop 73, the Parental Notification Initiative as they did again with Prop 85 in November 2006. Once again the same extremists – Evangelicals for Social Action, Right to Life Central California and Traditional Values Coalition – have brought back the same dangerous idea that will amend the State Constitution. It's Prop 4 on the November ballot. This continual assault on women is by those hoping to overturn Roe vs. Wade and a woman's right to choose how to deal with medical and parenting issues.

At first glance, the requirement for parental notification prior to a teenager's abortion sounds right. And, probably is right for 70-80%

of the healthy families where a teenager will talk with a parent. But, the observations I have made over the past 18 years in the Teen Success program for mothering teenagers funded by our Morgan Family Foundation are of girls suffering from cases of abuse and rape – not infrequently by a relative and often by someone just out of prison – and girls in devastating, dysfunctional and unloving families. Most of these girls simply do not have a parent or female relative they can ask or, if they try, they are often subject to further abuse. Going before a judge as the initiative allows is not something I would want to do as an adult. Can you imagine navigating our judicial system as a scared, pregnant teenager who may not speak English or have transportation?

One of the greatest medical threats to teens is suicide. The fear of telling parents or going to a judge, especially at a time of crisis and with the mood swings caused by pregnancy hormones running high, is a recipe for heightened suicides. Teens swallow Tylenol, Clorox, amphetamines... you name it, to end pregnancies. I know this because our daughter is an obstetrician-gynecologist. Her life could be endangered by Prop 4, as well. She would have to report any surgeries to the Department of Health Services and could be sued years later if a parent had not been informed. No government bureaucracy can guarantee that names will not be leaked to the public, no longer protecting physician/patient privacy rights and making her vulnerable to the likes of those bombing clinics and

doctors' homes. The potential for victimizing medical providers is poor public policy.

Affected young women and their parent or relative, if they have one, are unable or unlikely to vote. Voters are more likely to be those who have good family relations and don't understand the desperate situations of these vulnerable teens. We need your NO vote on Prop 4 for the safety of young women throughout California.

Jim and I have made a significant contribution to the NO on Prop 4 campaign. We need your help in spreading the word about the danger of Prop 4. We need your contribution so that ads may be placed in the next 2 weeks. Please help by sending as large a contribution as your situation allows to: NO on Prop 4, c/o PPM Advocates, 1605 The Alameda,

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officiate at his wedding, baptize his children, and was a member of Reverend Wright's Church for over twenty years. In light of that long and intimate history, doesn't Obama's claim that he knew nothing of Reverend Wright's racist and unpatriotic bile seem severely disingenuous? In other words, in twenty years of sitting in Mr. Wright Pew, Senator Obama missed all of Mr. Wright's outrageous statements like the conspiracy theory that the US government created AIDS to kill off African Americans, that the US brought 9-11 upon itself, and that Mr. Wright gave an award to one of the most racist and radical men in America, Louis Farrakhan. And what award did he give this vicious anti-Semite? A lifetime achievement award. Mr. Farrakhan has spent his lifetime deriding whites as "blue-eyed devils" and, collectively, as the "Antichrist." He has described Jews as "bloodsuckers" who control the government, the media, and some black organizations. When Obama claims he was not aware of Wright's speeches and actions over that twenty-year period, there are only two possible conclusions: he is either incredibly unaware, or he is a liar. In either case, is either of these the quality you want in the next leader of the free world?

Since its inception, Senator Obama's whole Presidential campaign has been based on a lofty pledge to change American Politics; to raise the level of discourse and move beyond the divisions in American. The problem is that he hasn't even risen above the divisions in the U.S. Senate, one of the most collegial bodies in the world. His claim to the mantle of bipartisanship is a joke. Senator McCain's record of working with Democrats easily outstrips Obama's efforts with Republicans. In fact, by several measures, McCain has been more likely to team up with Democrats than with members of his own party. Democrats made up 55 percent of his political partners over the last two Congresses, including on the tough issues of campaign finance and global warming. For Obama, Republicans made up only 13 percent of his co-sponsors during his time in the Senate, and he had his biggest bipartisan successes on noncontroversial measures, such as issuing a postage stamp in honor of civil rights icon Rosa Parks. And it is Obama who says he is the one to pull this nation together. He can't even pull the US Senate together. Furthermore, whereas McCain has a laundry list of issues where he has worked with Democrats – climate change, out of control spending, ear marks, torture, campaign finance

reform, immigration, patients' bill of rights, gun control and tax cuts – I can't name one issue where Obama has differed from his party. He has never countered his party on one major issue. Now, don't get me wrong, I disagree with many of the times McCain broke with the Republicans, but for Obama to claim the mantle of the bipartisan candidate who rises above partisan politics is just pure manure. The only Senator that can truly claim this title is his opponent, Senator John McCain.

So not only is the basis of Obama's entire campaign theme based on a pure fabrication that explains his opponent more than himself, at the same time, in the little time he has been a U.S. Senator he has shown terrible judgment.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to realize that right now our economy is very fragile. Investors and market players are all very jittery right now. Careless comments from a political leader could cause panic, create another run on the markets and put the economy into a tailspin. So what does this man, who aspires to be the leader of the free world, do in such a precarious situation? He proposes to RAISE TAXES. Anyone who has taken a single economics course knows that the last thing you want to do in a fragile economy is to raise taxes let alone even

discuss the issue. But that is what Obama has done. He has proposed raising the capital gains taxes and consequently making the stock market less enticing for investors. Right now we desperately need to restore people's confidence in the economy so we can convince people to continue to invest in our economy, not scare them away. Not only would it be incredibly damaging for Obama to actually follow through with his proposed tax policies, but even suggesting them at this time is incredibly reckless and irresponsible.

One lesson we surely learned from the Great Depression is that the last action you want to take when the world is in a financial crisis is hinder free trade. The Hoover Administration signed the Smoot Hawley Tariff in 1930 with disastrous results. Most economists point to the US tariff and other tariffs as one of the major factors in the Great Depression lasting so long and for it being so disastrous. But what has the Democratic Nominee been doing since engaging in his race for the presidency: criticizing globalization (in other words free trade) and proposing adjustments to NAFTA and the WTO. Has this man ever picked up a history book? If you can't learn from the past, you are condemned to repeat it. Mr.

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Principles Shared By Our Membership

Our members embrace most or all of the following principles:

1. An individual's reproductive system is none of the government's business. Those who oppose abortion should not use the government to deny others access to safe abortions. Reducing abortions in this country is best achieved by reducing unwanted pregnancies, not by making it illegal (which will simply change the location of abortions from the hospital to the back alley).
2. Government should not prevent contraceptive distribution, nor prevent teaching adolescents the causes of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. These efforts, along with encouraging abstinence among our teenagers, are the best ways to reduce unwanted pregnancies, and therefore abortions.
3. There should be a strict separation of church and state. Current efforts to prohibit abortion, and virtually end birth control, are thinly disguised efforts by certain religions groups to impose their religious beliefs on others.
4. It is imperative our government establish the framework to preserve our Earth for future generations. This goal is compatible with a growing capitalist economy and it is our duty to make it happen.
5. Education should be a top government priority. The government should pursue strict standards in education, including student testing and effective teacher evaluation. The educational curriculum should focus on the core academic disciplines of reading, writing and arithmetic. There should be no social promotion for students, incompetent teachers should be dismissed, and competent teachers should receive a decent and fair salary.
6. Discrimination is wrong. No person should be denied the American dream on the basis of race, gender, creed, national origin, income level, or sexual orientation. Further, quotas and preferences are fundamentally in conflict with this belief.
7. The government should keep taxes as low as possible.
8. The government should not interfere in the economic activity of its citizens unless absolutely necessary. There should be absolutely no subsidies or price controls of any kind as the government should be a catalyst for wealth creation not wealth redistribution.
9. The government should exercise a strict fiscal policy of balanced budgets and a monetary policy focused on low inflation and a sound dollar.
10. The federal government should continually and persistently pursue international treaties that promote free markets and human rights throughout the world.
11. The government should focus on maintaining and expanding our country's infrastructure, as this is one of the best ways the government can contribute to economic growth.
12. The federal government should spend a sufficient amount of money on defense so we can insure the security of our nation and keep all our commitments to our allies.
13. The medical sector of our economy should not be socialized and only medical doctors (not bureaucrats, insurance company representatives or non-medical HMO personnel) should determine which sort of treatment is best for their patients.
14. All law enforcement organizations should be well funded and supported by the community. The government's priority should be community policing and victims' rights. Our laws should provide for a life sentence for those who commit three violent felonies or sex offenses.
15. Valid and probative evidence should not be excluded from a criminal trial based on technicalities. The exclusionary rule is not in the U.S. Constitution, and the courts should stop pretending it is.
16. Treatment as opposed to incarceration is the best way to deal with all drug possession offenders.
17. The proliferation of lawsuits in this country has damaged our economy and benefits trial lawyers at the expense of the rest of community. Steps should be taken to insure that frivolous and groundless lawsuits are dismissed from our courts and all cases should be diverted to mediation and/or arbitration rather than proceeding directly to trial.

Become a Member!

There are four ways you can join CRL:

1. Cut out the order form below, fill out the requested information, and send it in with a check payable to CRL.
2. Cut out the order form, fill it out, and mail it to the address above with your credit card information written on the form in the space provided.
3. Fax the order form with your credit card information written on the form in the space provided.
Fax number: (650) 941-6987
4. Go to our website at www.republicanleague.org and sign up there using your credit card.

Email comments, suggestions, or questions to:
president@republicanleague.org

2008 Membership Order Form

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

Email Address:

Please include your email address above as email will be the primary means of communication among the CRL membership.

- \$40 for an individual member \$65 for a couple
 other amount _____

Credit card type (circle one):

Visa Mastercard JCB Diner's Club
 Carte Blanche American Express Discover

Credit Card Number:

Expiration Date:

Print your name exactly as it appears on the credit card:

If you are paying by credit card, please ensure the address you provide matches the address and telephone number on file with your credit card company.

Mail to:

California Republican League
888 Robb Road
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Obama seems bent on repeating the Great Depression.

Now let's turn to Iraq. No matter how you feel about whether we should have gone in, we're in and we need to succeed. Obama, from day one, has opposed the surge. He fought hard against it. And there is absolutely no question the surge has worked. Iraq is a much safer place since the surge and the chances of Iraq turning into a stable democracy are increasing every day. But if Senator Obama had his way we would have never implemented the surge, pulled out, leaving Iraq a hell hole for its inhabitants and a spawning ground for terrorists. No reasonable person could deny that the surge has worked, yet Senator Obama has refused to state his vote on the surge was wrong. It takes character to admit when you are wrong, but character and humility are two qualities Senator Obama clearly lacks. Wouldn't you like the next president to possess such qualities?

As Iraq is improving, the situation in Afghanistan is getting worse. If his past record is any indication, Senator Obama as commander in chief will cut and run out of Afghanistan the minute the tactical ground situation turns against us. So what have we learned; Senator Obama is unqualified to lead the military, unqualified to manage the economy, insincere about the main theme of his campaign, and can't admit when he has made a mistake. But worst of all, he has the worst military and economic judgment of any presidential candidate in the last one hundred years.

His opponent on the other hand has shown the judgment, has the experience, the integrity and character to be President. In fact, Senator McCain may be the most qualified man of the past hundred years to be president.

First of all, he attended Annapolis. The sole purpose of the US Military Academies is to create competent and trustworthy leaders. I don't think anyone would argue that intensive leadership training over a four-year period is a bad experience for a future president to have. After attending one of these time honored academies he has shown the fortitude and courage few men in the history of the world

have shown. He chose to stay in the hell hole of a Vietnam prison, because he didn't think it was fair that men who had gone in earlier should stay longer than he and because he did not want to give the Vietnamese any propaganda points at his expense. Can you point out anyone else in this country that has shown more patriotism, courage and commitment to this country than John McCain? He could have left that hell and saved his body from being permanently crippled, but he chose a crippled body for the sake of his nation. Because of his actions he cannot even salute the country he loves so much. Very few men or women ever face this sort of test, and the few that do usually fail to pass it. And don't get me wrong, it would be hard to criticize anyone that had actually chosen to go home. But John McCain showed incredible courage, self sacrifice and patriotism beyond comprehension. Michele Obama said that when her husband won the nomination it was the first time she was proud of this country. If there was ever a time Ms. Obama should have been proud of America, it was when she realized that our country had produced a man of such character and patriotism as John McCain. When it comes to the issue of character and patriotism, there is no argument which candidate is better qualified to sit in the Oval Office.

After his terrible experience in Vietnam, Mr. McCain could have left the U.S. Navy. He had gone way above and beyond the call of duty, but instead he chose to continue his service. He took command of a squadron which he turned into one of the top rated squadrons in the Navy. In his command of this squadron he demonstrated all the most important components of being a truly great leader; the ability to face excruciating tests, putting the welfare of his subordinates above his own, the ability to command respect, and the ability to organize men and woman so they perform better as a team. Has Mr. Obama ever shown even one of these qualities in his life?

There is no question when McCain is the leader of the free world, many will not like him or his policies, but no one will disrespect him or question his integrity, resolve or

courage. One of the reason's Nikita Khrushchev felt free to put missiles into Cuba in the early sixties was because after his meeting with John F. Kennedy in Vienna, Khrushchev did not feel Kennedy had the back bone to stand up to him. No world leader will make that mistake with John McCain. Can anyone say with any confidence that leaders of hostile nations will not question the resolve of Obama? In a time when thousands of terrorists around the world are trying to test US resolve, and are trying to demonstrate that we are a paper tiger, who better to lead the nation than someone who no one can question their resolve and courage.

Another issue in which Mr. McCain has shown sound judgment on is in military issues. When he was a first-term Congressman, Ronald Reagan, a man who McCain loved and adored (and whose coattails probably put McCain in his congressional seat) proposed sending troops to Lebanon. McCain, although he wanted to support his friend, put his principles first and stood up to this incredibly popular President of his own party and voted against sending the troops to Lebanon. Why did he not want to send them to Lebanon? Because they had no clear mission, no clear time table for staying and would be sitting ducks for terrorists. And, as it turned out, John McCain was absolutely right. Mr. McCain supported the invasion of Iraq, but criticized the operation because we were sending in too few troops. He constantly took on a President from his own party, saying he needed to send more troops and drop Defense Secretary Rumsfeld because "he was one of the most incompetent Secretaries of Defense in the history of our nation". And what happened when the President let Defense Secretary Rumsfeld go and agreed to send in more troops? The situation in Iraq vastly improved. So as Senator and as a Congressman, John McCain has shown incredibly sound judgment when it comes to military matters, as opposed to Senator Obama, who has never served a day in the military and whose only vote on such issues was a vote against the surge. When it comes to Judgment on military affairs, there is no contest; McCain is the clear winner.

We live in dangerous times, and

often in world politics perception is reality. None of our enemies will perceive McCain as weak or unwilling to do what it takes to protect Americans and our allies. In addition, they will see a President who has proven that he has a grasp of military tactics and strategy that few men possess. On the other hand, do they have any reason to believe in Senator Obama's resolve or his ability to judge military matters? They absolutely do not. You may say that economics is not McCain's strong suit but at least he understands you do not raise taxes in a shaky economy. He was against Bush's tax cuts, but he understands now that such tax cuts cannot be reduced in this sort of economy. He is courageous enough to change his position based on the circumstances, where Obama can't even admit the obvious; that the surge was successful. And Senator McCain has always been steadfast in his support of free trade. He has never faltered on that issue, even when is has been highly unpopular to do so. And I can't imagine a time when it is more important to have a President that is firmly committed to free trade than right now when the entire world economy is on such shaky ground.

When Obama claims to be a politician that does not toe the party line, a politician that reaches across the aisle, a politician that can bring America together, Obama is not describing himself, he is describing John McCain. Where Obama has been partisan, and a typical machine politician, John McCain is a proven maverick who has constantly stood up to his own party, reached across the aisle and is the sort of politician that can bring America together.

I know many members of the CRL consider the choice issue very important, but if it were the only issue you cared about you wouldn't be a Republican and you wouldn't be a member of the CRL. When it comes to every other issue and every other quality you want in a leader of the free world, John McCain is the only choice.

With the precarious world we live in, and a shaky economy, America and the world need John McCain, and the last person we need in the Oval Office is Barack Obama.

I hope that you will join me in supporting John McCain this November.